

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 3095

OECD PASS USDEL TO PREPCON II

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, AG

SUBJ: PREPCON II

REF: (A) STATE 241378 (B) STATE 235526 (C) STATE 231000

1. MET OULD ROUIS, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS DIV. OF FONOFF OCT. 10 FOR DISCUSSION OF PREPCON ISSUES. FOLLOWING WERE MAIN POINTS OF CONVERSATION:

A. TRANSMITTED UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON'S INVITATION FOR BREAKFAST OCT. 13 (PER REF A). OULD ROUIS CALLED LATER TO SAY AIT CHAALAL ACCEPTED INVITATION WITH PLEASURE.

B. EXPLAINED US RESPONSE TO ALGERIAN QUESTIONS RE OBSERVERS IN COMMISSIONS, I.E., THAT WE DID NOT BELIEVE NON-MEMBERS SHOULD SIT IN, EVEN WITHOUT RIGHT TO SPEAK (REF B). OULD ROUIS SAID OUR POSITION NOW VERY CLEAR BUT ASKED WITH SMILE WHETHER WE VAANT MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE LIMITED TO 15 PERSONS OR 15 DELEGATIONS. IN LATTER CASE, WE MIGHT FIND SOME REPRESENTATIVES FROM NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES ON DELEGATIONS. I SAID THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE SETTLED AT PARIS.

C. RECEIVED ALGERIAN RESPONSE, IN FORM OF WORKING PAPER, TO OUR BASIC STATEMENT OF POSITION OF PROCEDURAL

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ISSUES (REF C). IN PAPER, GOA ACKNOWLEDGES POINTS

RAISED BY USG ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES (CHAIRMANSHIP, SECRETARIAT, LOCATION OF MEETING, AGENDA, OBSERVERS, AND COMMISSION MEMBERS); SAYS THAT HAS GIVEN ITS POINTS OF VIEW ON IMPORTANT PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS IN BILATERALS WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES NOTABLY THE US; AND STATES THAT IT DESIRABLE AND REALISTIC TO RESOLVE SECONDARY OR LESS IMPORTANT QUESTIONS DURING PREPCON ITSELF. PAPER ADDS THAT GOA DOES NOT WANT TO ANTICIPATE RESULTS OF CONSULTATION OF GROUP OF 7 WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE ON DAY BEFORE PREPCON II BEGINS.

2. IN ADDITION TO HANDING ME WORKING PAPER, OULD ROUIS ALSO GAVE US PROMISED COPY OF ALGERIAN COMMENTS ON FIRST FRENCH AIDE MEMOIRE (ALREADY TRANSMITTED IN ALGIERS 3069 AND 3045), WHICH HE SAID ANSWERED SOME OF OUR ORIGINAL QUESTIONS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT OTHER QUESTIONS WERE NOT ANSWERED BECAUSE GOA DID NOT WANT TO COMMIT ITSELF BEFORE GROUP OF 7 MEETING.

3. OULD ROUIS ALSO HAD FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS IN COMPOSITION ALGERIAN DELEGATION:

A. CHANGE: MUAMAR BENERBA, F DIRECTOR OF STUDIES, BUREAU OF ENERGY AND HYDROCARBONS, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (IN PLACE OF BOUGARA).

B. ADD: DJAMAL MOSTEFAL, DIRECTOR OF FINANCES, NATIONAL STEEL CORPORATION.

4. OULD ROUIS NOTED THAT ALL OF MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS EXCEPT LOUNES PARTICIPATED IN PREPCON I AND MOST OF THEM WERE PRESENT AT ROBINSON-ABDESSELAM MEETING IN JULY.
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